

Ohio Beetles Bulletin

Occasional Publication of the Ohio Coleopterists

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Elateridae: *Megapenthes limbalis*

The Ohio Beetles Bulletin (OBB) was developed to provide the Ohio Coleopterists membership a means of communication in conjunction with the Ohio Coleopterists Newsletter. It is hoped the OBB will provide an informative and enjoyable means of sharing information on the fascinating world of Beetles.

“When we have experienced the atavistic joy of collecting in the open air and the manipulative pleasure of setting and mounting our chosen beetles there follows the refined intellectual delight of naming them with precision”.

Quote by G.B. Walsh taken from the first edition of the Coleopterists Handbook. W.J.B. Crotch, General Editor London, December 1953.

Cover Photo: *Megapenthes limbalis*, (Herbst) Specimen collected by Ken Karns 07-14-July-2012. Vinton Co. Ohio (13 mm)

OHIO COLEOPTERISTS

January Meeting Notice

The Ohio Coleopterists will be meeting this month as follows:

Date: Saturday, 11-January-2014

Time: 10:00 am until.....

Place: Museum of Biological Diversity
1315 Kinnear Road
Columbus, Ohio

Agenda: Various OC and beetle related topics.

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Tentative OC Field Trip & Meeting Schedule - 2014

February	22nd	Meeting at Ken Karns Home & Museum
March	15th	Museum trip to Dayton, Cincinnati, or possibly Cleveland.
April	12th	Collecting Karns Cabin - Vinton County, OH.
May	9-11	Dave Horn's Cabin Friday night, Karns Cabin Saturday-Sunday.
June	14th	Field Trip to Shawnee State Forest & State Park
July	12th	Field Trip (location undecided but mark your calendar)
August	9th	Field Trip (location undecided but mark your calendar)

Notes on two rarely collected “Scarabs” from Ohio
by: Ken Karns

Subfamily: Aphodiinae
Tribes: Aegialiini and Aphodiini



Aegialiini: *Caelius humeralis* (Brown)
06-13 April-2013, Vinton County, OH.
Specimens and Photo: Ken Karns



Aphodiini: *Hornietus ventralis* (Horn)
07-14 May-2011, Vinton County, OH.
Specimens and Photo: Ken Karns

Ongoing collecting efforts at the author’s cabin property in Vinton County, Ohio continue to yield a rich and diverse beetle fauna.

On 06-13 April-2013, a single specimen of *Caelius humeralis* (Brown) was taken in a flight intercept trap located near a small drainage creek nestled in an upland hardwood forest dominated by Maple, Hickory, and Oak. Gordon and Cartwright (1988) list the distribution as Quebec to Massachusetts, South Carolina, west to the Great Lakes Region, MI, NH, NY. This specimen likely represents a new Ohio State Record and this will be verified and submitted for publication at a later date. No specific biological data was reported by the authors.

It was with some surprise and excitement of the discovery and collection of the rarely encountered Aphodiini; *Hornietus ventralis* (Horn). Following the initial collection, three additional specimens were taken as follows: 07-14 May-2011 (1), 14-21 May-2011 (1), 11-18 May-2013 (1), 25-May to 01-June-2013 (1) all specimens were taken in Lindgren Funnel Traps baited with Ethanol lure packs in upland hardwoods as described above. Based on the collection dates initial impression is this species is a cool weather or spring active species. Gordon and Skelly (2007) list the distribution as; Ontario, Maryland, Washington DC, Alabama, and Ohio. No specific collection data was presented with the temporal distribution as January to May, further supporting the cool weather/spring activity hypothesis. Some interesting biological data was presented such as “flying at dusk, in a tree hole, in leaf litter near logs”. Highly intriguing was the possible association, presented by the authors, of *H. ventralis* possible affinity for insect frass, as some records indicate this association.

American Burying Beetle Release At The Wilds

Richard Maxey

On June 11, 2013, George Keeney, Cheryl Early and I assisted with the release of 49 pairs of the endangered American Burying Beetle *Nicrophorus americanus*, Olivier, at The Wilds, Cumberland, Ohio. Dan Beetem, Director of Animal Management at The Wilds, coordinated the release with a large number of people helping. This is part of a multi agency effort including The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, U. S. Fish and Wildlife, The Wayne National Forest, The Wilds and the Cincinnati Zoo. The release went well and a local school group were able to see us in action. After a lunch at the cafeteria Dan Beetem gave a number of us a wonderful private tour of The Wilds on one of their buses including a tour of their breeding facility built just for American Burying Beetles.

Dan updated us on the 14 day post release where he opened five of the burial chambers and found larva in four. The average brood was 10.4 with a range of 5 to 23. This represents an 80% success rate and would work out to 407 new beetles. There also was no evidence of savaging which can be a real problem.

Thanks go to Dan and The Wilds for continuing to support this worthwhile endeavor.



Nicrophorus americanus, Olivier
Family: Silphidae

2014 Dues are Due!



Ohio Coleopterists 2014 dues are now due. All members must be paid by the 1st quarter of the current year to stay active and continue to receive the benefits of membership.

Example: If you have not paid dues by March 31st for any given year you will be dropped as a member. You will be given three notices prior to membership discontinuance. As a courtesy and additional reminder, you will continue to receive the OBB for three consecutive issues of that year.

Dues are \$15/Calendar Year

Send Check or Money Order To:

The Ohio Coleopterists
Museum of Biological Diversity
1315 Kinnear Road
Columbus, OH. 43212-1192

WHAT THE HECK DO I GET!

- Ohio Beetles Bulletin (6 issues per year sent to your e-mail or snail mail by request)
- Organized field trips.
- Participation in The Ohio Beetles Database Project.
- Museum visits and collections surveys for Ohio beetle records.
- Specimen identification and curation.
- Monthly meetings October-February. March-Sept are usually field trips.
- Participation in web-site content and presentation.
- Stay connected and learn what's happening in the world of Ohio Beetles!

Membership dues go to defer costs of web-site hosting & domain name fees, database development and maintenance, postage costs, promotional materials, etc.